

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. ~~An image forming apparatus for scanning images~~
on first and second originals each having a main scan
direction and a sub-scan direction and forming copy
5 images of the scanning images on an obverse side and
a reverse side of an image formation medium, the
apparatus comprising:

setting means for setting directions of scanning
of the first and second originals;

10 first scanning means for scanning the first
original conveyed in the direction of scanning of
the original set by the setting means;

first recording means for recording image data
of the first original scanning by the first scanning
15 means;

first reading means for reading out the image data
of the first original recorded in the first recording
means without rotating the image data;

20 first image forming means for forming the image
data of the first original reading by the first reading
means on the obverse side of the image formation
medium;

25 second scanning means for scanning the second
original conveyed in the direction of scanning of the
original set by the setting means;

second recording means for recording image data of
the second original read by the second scanning means;

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~~second reading means for reading out the image~~
data of the second original recorded in the second
recording means without rotating the image data or by
rotating the image data over 180° in accordance with the
5 setting by the setting means; and

second image forming means for forming the image
data of the second original reading by the second
reading means on the reverse side of the image
formation medium.

10 2. An image forming apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein said directions of the first and
second originals set by the setting means are
a portrait of a horizontally positioned original,
a landscape of a vertically positioned original,
15 a landscape of a horizontally positioned original, and
a portrait of a vertically positioned original.

3. An image forming apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein said directions of the first and
second originals set by the setting means are
20 a portrait of a horizontally positioned original,
a landscape of a vertically positioned original,
a landscape of a horizontally positioned original, and
a portrait of a vertically positioned original, and

25 where the directions of reading of the first and
second originals are the portrait of the horizontally
positioned original or the landscape of the vertically
positioned original, the second reading means reading

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~~the image data by rotating the image data over 180°~~,
and where the directions of scanning of the first and
second originals are the landscape of the horizontally
positioned original or the portrait of the vertically
positioned original, the second reading means reading
the image data without rotating the image data.

4. An image forming apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein said first recording means recording
the image data of the first original scanning by the
first scanning means by subjecting the image data to
a mirror-image conversion, and said second recording
means recording the image data of the second original
scanning by the second scanning means by subjecting the
image data to a mirror-image conversion.

5. An image forming apparatus for scanning images
on first and second originals each having a main scan
direction and a sub-scan direction and forming copy
images of the scanning images on an obverse side and
a reverse side of an image formation medium, the
apparatus comprising:

first setting means for setting directions of
scanning of the first and second originals;

second setting means for setting a binding margin;

first scanning means for scanning the first
original conveyed in the direction of scanning of the
original set by the first setting means;

~~first reading means for recording image data of~~

~~the first original scanning by the first scanning means;~~

first reading means for reading out the image data of the first original recorded in the first recording means without rotating the image data (and by providing the binding margin set by the second setting means;)

first image forming means for forming the image data of the first original reading by the first reading means on the obverse side of the image formation medium;

second scanning means for scanning the second original conveyed in the direction of scanning of the original set by the setting means;

second recording means for recording image data of the second original read by the second scanning means;

second reading means for reading out the image data of the second original recorded in the second recording means without rotating the image data (and by providing the binding margin set by the second setting means, or by rotating the image data over 180° (and providing the binding margin set by the second setting means,) in accordance with the setting by the setting means; and

second image forming means for forming the image data of the second original reading by the second reading means on the reverse side of the image formation medium.

6. ~~An image forming apparatus according to~~
claim 5, wherein said directions of the first and
second originals set by the setting means are
a portrait of a horizontally positioned original,
5 a landscape of a vertically positioned original,
a landscape of a horizontally positioned original,
and a portrait of a vertically positioned original.

7. An image forming apparatus according to
claim 5, wherein said directions of the first and
10 second originals set by the setting means are
a portrait of a horizontally positioned original,
a landscape of a vertically positioned original,
a landscape of a horizontally positioned original, and
a portrait of a vertically positioned original, and

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15 where the directions of scanning of the first and
second originals are the portrait of the horizontally
positioned original or the landscape of the vertically
positioned original, the second reading means reading
the image data by rotating the image data over 180° ,
20 and where the directions of scanning of the first and
second originals are the landscape of the horizontally
positioned original or the portrait of the vertically
positioned original, the second reading means reading
the image data without rotating the image data.

25 8. An image forming apparatus according to
claim 5, wherein said first recording means recording
the image data of the first original scanning by the

~~first scanning means by subjecting the image data to
a mirror-image conversion, and said second recording
means recording the image data of the second original
scanning by the second scanning means by subjecting the
image data to a mirror-image conversion.~~